

# WATER QUALITY PROGRAM COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS AND GRANTS FY 2005 REGION 8 GUIDANCE

## **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this guidance is to supplement the FY2005 Region 8 Request for Proposals (RFP) under the “Consolidated Funding Process” for projects to be considered for funding under the Water Quality Program Cooperative Agreement and Grant provisions of Section 104(b)(3) of the Clean Water Act. All proposals must be submitted in accordance with the time lines, proposal format and additional criteria established in the FY2005 Request for Proposals under the Consolidated Funding Process.

## **INTRODUCTION**

Funding under Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 104(b)(3) is for short duration (1 to 2 year) projects that promote the coordination and acceleration of research, investigations, experiments, training, demonstrations, surveys, and studies relating to the causes, effects, extent, prevention, reduction and elimination of pollution. Funding can not be used for staffing of ongoing programs (staffing for the project is appropriate). Call Pauline Romano at 303-312-7835 for information.

## **FY 2005 WATER QUALITY PROGRAM PRIORITIES**

### **Agriculture**

Alternative Markets or Treatments for Manure  
Environmental Management Systems for Agriculture  
Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations  
Land Application of Manure and/or Biosolids

### **Energy**

Coal Bed Methane  
Energy Recovery from Waste Treatment Systems  
Oil and Gas

### **Homeland Security**

Innovative approaches or methods to reduce risk or impact of terrorist or other attacks to: 1) the integrity and effectiveness of wastewater collections and treatment systems; 2) handling and storage of hazardous chemicals used at wastewater treatment plants; or 3) early detection of chemical or biological agents which could contaminate or disrupt wastewater treatment plants.

Ability of conventional or innovative WWTP processes to treat, remove or render harmless biological, chemical, or radiological agents which could be introduced into the collection or treatment system.

### **Revitalization**

Use of Nutrients and Organic Matter for Land Reclamation ( Mine Land, Forest Fire Burn Areas, Degraded Rangeland etc.)

Wastewater Reuse

### **Core Water Quality Protection Programs**

#### *Program Innovations*

Program and management efficiencies and innovations in such areas as wastewater permit issuance, data collection/submission, water quality standards development, TMDLs, monitoring, inspections, and compliance.

Innovative approaches to address wastewater operations and maintenance (O&M) issues for small communities, including tribes.

Innovative approaches or methods to help communities and tribes build capacity to develop and manage water quality/wastewater programs.

Innovative pretreatment and biosolid tools or pilot projects for program development/implementation.

#### *Program Integration*

Integration of water programs under the Clean Water Act and Safe Drinking Water Act on a watershed basis.

Pollutant Reduction Strategies through Trading.

#### *Biosolids*

#### *Industrial Pretreatment*

#### *Emerging Pollutants*

#### *Wet Weather Programs*

Trends in load reductions due to implementation of storm water.

Storm water Best Management Practices (BMPs) including means of measuring effectiveness of BMPs.

Develop and Pilot Storm Water Discharge and Ambient Water Monitoring Techniques for Gauging Water Quality Improvements.

Efficient and effective reduction of Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSO).

### **RANKING CRITERIA**

Project proposals will be ranked in a competitive process based on the following factors, however it is not expected that a project would meet all of these factors. The first two bullets are the most important criterion.

- Does the project relate to the discharge or potential discharge of pollutants to surface water from a discrete conveyance (e.g. a pipe or ditch)?
- Does the project focus on one or more of the Water Quality Program Priorities identified above?
- Does the project provide capacity building for Tribes?
- Consistency of the project with the watershed-based approach to environmental improvement through point and non-point source control functions.
- The ability to achieve and demonstrate results.
- The ability to demonstrate water quality improvement.
- The transferability of project methodology to other projects.
- The use of matching funds or in-kind matches.
- The cost of the project relative to the methodology used and the results expected.
- Enhancement of public participation in water pollution control activities.
- Satisfactory progress or performance on previously awarded 104(b)(3) grants.